



# PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

February 15, 2006

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Assigned to Each Case

## **FEDERAL GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS**

Madison, Wisconsin -- A federal grand jury in the Western District of Wisconsin, sitting in Madison, returned the following indictments today. You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

### **LA CROSSE MAN CHARGED WITH SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD AND FIREARMS OFFENSES**

Philip Schuth, DOB 10/12/1952, formerly of La Crosse, Wisconsin, was charged with concealing the death of his mother in order to continue receiving payment of her Social Security benefits, and with possession of a sawed-off shotgun and possession of destructive devices.

Schuth resided with his mother, Edith Schuth, in La Crosse. She received monthly benefits from the Social Security Administration which were direct-deposited into a joint checking account in the name of Edith Schuth or Philip Schuth. The indictment alleges that Philip Schuth intentionally concealed the death of Edith Schuth by placing her in a chest freezer and freezing her corpse from August 15, 2000 to April 23, 2005. The indictment alleges that as a result of Philip Schuth's concealment of his mother's death, the Social Security Administration continued to pay benefits to Edith Schuth, in the amount of approximately \$35,690.

In addition, the indictment alleges that on April 23, 2005, Philip Schuth knowingly possessed a 12 gauge shotgun with a barrel of less than 18 inches in length, and numerous destructive devices, consisting of glass and plastic containers containing gun

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## **SOUTH BELOIT MAN INDICTED ON FIREARMS CHARGES**

Jeremy D. Jenkins, DOB 4/4/1983, of South Beloit, Illinois, was indicted on three firearms charges. The indictment alleges that on December 16, 2005, Jenkins stole 11 firearms, including nine shotguns and two handguns, from Isenberg's True Value Hardware, in Baraboo, Wisconsin. The indictment also charges Jenkins with being a felon in possession of these firearms and with knowingly selling a stolen firearm.

If convicted, Jenkins faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison on each of the three counts charged in the indictment. The investigation of this matter was handled by the Baraboo Police Department, the Beloit Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

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## **MADISON MAN CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION**

Brian A. Hale, DOB 12/11/1967, of Madison, Wisconsin, was charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition. The indictment alleges that on December 15, 2005, Hale possessed Luger 9mm ammunition.

If convicted, Hale faces a mandatory minimum penalty of 15 years in prison. The investigation of this matter was handled by the Madison Police Department, the Dane County Sheriff's Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

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## **LUCK MAN CHARGED WITH TWO FIREARMS CRIMES**

Joseph T. Sandgren, DOB 9/24/1958, of Luck, Wisconsin, was charged with making a false statement to a federally licensed firearms dealer and with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The indictment alleges that on September 30, 2005, Sandgren executed a Firearms Transaction Record to be kept in the records of Pawn Gallery Inc., in which he falsely claimed to be "Richard" Sandgren and that he had not previously been convicted of a felony. The indictment further alleges that on October 10, 2005, Sandgren was a felon in possession of a 12 gauge shotgun.

If convicted, Sandgren faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison on the false statement charge and 10 years in prison on the felon in possession charge. This matter was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of this case has been assigned by Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter M. Jarosz.

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